GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3961
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
REDUCTION IN INTERNATIONAL CALL RATES
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MTNL has recently reduced the international call rates to various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the BSNL has also proposed to follow suit;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA)

(a) & (b) MTNL has reduced the ISD call rates for the VOIP customers only w.e.f. 1st February, 2008. The reduced rates are applicable to 100 countries and 22 mobile destinations at a rate of Re. 1/- per minute. In general for countries where call rates were Rs. 2/- and Rs. 3/- per minute have been reduced to Re. 1/-. For countries where call rates were Rs. 6/-, 8/- and 12/-, the corresponding reduction has been made to Rs. 4/-, 6/- and 8/- per minute.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Tariffs offered by BSNL are reviewed from time to time keeping in view, the needs of the customers, prevailing market conditions and settlement rate payable for carrying the international call to the foreign carriers/ILDO operators.It is already offering 'CallNow' Card under which a customer can make ISD calls at very low competitive rates.